

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Claims 1 – 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): An apparatus for retouching a photographed image using a digital camera, comprising:

 a region recognition unit for recognizing an image region which is to be retouched in the photographed image and outputting the recognized image ~~region~~; region, the region recognition unit including a first button located on the digital camera, the first button operable to initiate a window moving function for defining a recognized image region which is to be retouched; and

 a region retouch unit for retouching the recognized image region input from the region recognition unit, and outputting the retouched result,

~~wherein the region recognition unit and the region retouch unit~~ including a second button located on the digital camera adjacent to the first button, the second button operable to initiate only a retouching function of the recognized image region. ~~are located on the digital camera.~~

Claim 10 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the region retouch unit further includes a third button adjacent to the first and second buttons, the third button operable to initiate blurring of ~~blurs the recognized image region and outputs region, the region retouch unit outputting the blurred image region.~~

Claim 11 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the region retouch unit further comprises:

 a filter window forming unit for forming a first filter window having the same size as the recognized image region and outputting the formed first filter window;

 a filter window moving unit for moving the first filter window input from the filter window forming unit on a screen of the digital camera and outputting the moved result;

a region copying unit for copying the image region on which the first filter window is disposed in response to receiving of the moved result of the first filter window, and outputting the copied image region; and

a color information substituting unit for substituting the color information of the recognized image region with that of the copied image region in response to receiving of the moved result of the first filter window including the copied image region from the filter window moving unit, and outputting the substituted image region.

Claim 12 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the filter window forming unit forms windows having several selective sizes.

Claim 13 (original): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the region retouch unit further comprises:

a peripheral region recognizing unit for recognizing a peripheral image region including the substituted image region in response to receiving of the substituted image region from the color information substituting unit, and outputting the recognized peripheral image region; and

a peripheral region blurring unit for blurring the recognized peripheral image region input from the peripheral region recognizing unit, and outputting the blurred peripheral image region.

Claim 14 (original): The apparatus of claim 9 further comprising a region expanding unit for expanding the recognized image region input from the region recognition unit and outputting the expanded image region, wherein the region retouch unit retouches the expanded image region input from the region expanding unit and outputs the retouched image region.

Claim 15 (original): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the region retouch unit comprises:

a detailed retouch region recognizing unit for recognizing the detailed retouch region in the expanded image region and outputting the recognized detailed retouch region; and

a detailed retouch region blurring unit for blurring the detailed retouch region input from the detailed retouch region recognizing unit and outputting the blurred detailed retouch region.

Claim 16 (original): The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the region retouch unit comprises:

a filter window forming unit for forming a second filter window having the same size as the detailed retouch region in the expanded image region and outputting the formed second filter window;

a filter window moving unit for moving the second filter window inputted from the filter window forming unit on a screen of the digital camera, and outputting the moved result;

a region copying unit for copying the image region on which the second filter window is disposed in response to receiving of the moved result of the second filter window, and outputting the copied image region; and

a color information substituting unit for substituting the color information of the detailed retouch region with the color information of the copied image region in response to receiving of the moved result of the second filter window having the copied image region from the filter window moving unit, and outputting the substituted image region.

Claim 17 (original): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the filter window forming unit forms several windows having selective sizes.

Claim 18 (original): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the region retouch unit further comprises:

a peripheral region recognizing unit for receiving the substituted image region from the color information substituting unit, recognizing a peripheral image region including the substituted image region, and outputting the recognized peripheral image region; and

a peripheral region blurring unit for blurring the peripheral image region input from the peripheral region recognizing unit and outputting the blurred peripheral image region.

Claim 19-24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (new): A digital camera for retouching an image, comprising:

a memory storing the image;

a display reproducing the image;

an expanding unit enlarging on the display a portion of the image being reproduced, the expanding unit including a first button located on the digital camera, the first button operable to initiate an image enlarging function for defining the portion of the image to be enlarged;

a recognition unit selecting a retouch region of the portion of the image being enlarged, the recognition unit including a second button located on the digital camera, the second button operable to initiate window-moving and selection functions for defining the retouch region; and

a retouch unit for retouching the retouch region selected by the recognition unit, the retouch unit including third and fourth buttons located on the digital camera, the third button operable to copy proximate pixel information and replace pixel information of the retouch region with the proximate pixel information, and the fourth button operable to blur edges of the retouch region for blending with the proximate pixel information, and wherein the retouch unit communicates with the memory for overwriting the image in the memory with a retouched image output from the region retouch unit.

Claim 26 (new): The digital camera of claim 9, wherein the retouch unit further comprises:

a filter window unit for configuring a pixel-copying window on the display, the pixel-copying window having a size and shape relative to the retouch region, the filter window unit being in communication with the second button for moving the pixel-copying window on the display;

a copying unit for acquiring pixel information of pixels within the pixel-copying window, the copying unit being in communication with a selection button integral with the second button; and

an information substituting unit for replacing the pixel information of the retouch region with the pixel information of the pixel-copying window.